

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 05804 251624Z

46

ACTION EUR-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /005 W  
----- 119558

P R 251500Z AUG 76  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8329  
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS LISBON 5804

USINFO FOR IOP/M, IBS/PE  
USIA WASHDC FOR IEU/MCLAUGHLIN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN, PO  
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

1. U.S. ELECTION CAMPAIGN: LEVEL OF MEDIA COVERAGE OF U.S. ELECTION CAMPAIGN--WHICH WAS HIGH BEFORE AND DURING REPUBLICAN CONVENTION HAS RECEDED. PRINCIPAL FOCUS OF AUGUST 24 AFTERNOON AND AUGUST 25 MORNING PRESS WAS THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PROPOSED FORD-CARTER DEBATES. FORD'S ENTHUSIASM FOR THE CONFRONTATION WAS NOTED. CONCERNING FORD'S PROPOSAL TO ADVANCE THE DATE FIRST DEBAT (ON NATIONAL DEFENSE), AUGUST 25 "O DIA" WROTE: "THE AIM OF HIS PROPOSAL SEEMS TO BE TO EMBARRASS HIS ADVERSARY BEFORE CARTER CAN BE CORRECTLY BRIEFED ON A COMPLEX AND CONTROVERSIAL PROBLEM." THIS COMMENT APPEARED IN A STRAIGHT NEWS FORMAT. CARTER'S CALL FOR CLOSER DIPLOMATIC CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. ALLIES SO AS TO ELIMINATE THE "SCHOCKS" PRODUCED BY PAST UNILATERAL ACTIONS, AND HIS PROMISE TO DO SO IF ELECTED, WAS REPORTED PROMINENTLY BY AUGUST 25 MORNING PRESS.

2. KOREAN SITUATION: NORTH KOREAN NOTE EXPRESSING REGRET FOR DMZ INCIDENTS, U.S. INTERPRETATION OF SAME AS "POSITIVE STEP", AND U.S. CONVOCAION OF THE ARMISTICE COMMISSION SUGGESTED FOLLOWING HEADLINE WHICH APPEARED IN AUGUST 24 "DIARIO DE LISBOA":  
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PAGE 02 LISBON 05804 251624Z

"SITUATION IN KOREA LESS TENSE". HEADLINE REFLECTS CURRENT PRESS

OUTLOOK ON KOREAN SITUATION.

3. U.S. SOUTH AFRICA POLICY: AUGUST 25 "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS" REPORTED, WITHOUT COMMENTARY, REV. JESSE JACKSON'S STATEMENT THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD TOLD HIM THE U.S. COULD IMPOSE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA IF THE "MASSACRE" (NEWSPAPER'S QUOTATION MARKS) OF BLACK SOUTH AFRICAN DISSIDENTS CONTINUED, AND THAT THE U.S. WOULD STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF ASYLUM FOR EXILED OPPONENTS OF APARTHEID. ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT, JACK ANDERSON'S ALLEGATION THAT A PLOT TO KILL KISSINGER HAD BEEN DISCOVERED LAST FEBRUARY WAS REPORTED ALSO WITHOUT COMMENTARY IN AUGUST 25 PRESS.

JORDAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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